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SECRET

Question - Under what circumstances would Cuba be permitted to participate again in the OAS?

Answer - The decision by the Foreign Ministers at Punta del Este to exclude the Cuban Government from participation in the OAS was based on two grounds: its adherence to Marxism-Leninism and its alignment with the communist bloc. While I cannot, of course, speak for the OAS, ^{but} the United States for its part would urge that a Cuban Government which rejects the tenets of Marxism-Leninism be welcomed back to the inter-American system. We remain confident that the Cuban people will not permanently tolerate the betrayal of their revolution to international communism. When the true leaders of Cuba succeed in returning their revolution to its original aims the United States for its part stands ready to recognize promptly and to enter into a friendly relationship with them or any other representative groups in Cuba that succeed in establishing a government responsive to the desires and aspirations of the Cuban people.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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